

- 4) What can be said about contemporary architecture in Wales? Discuss this statement and give examples of buildings to support your argument.

Wales has a significant industrial history and contemporary architecture takes ~~influence~~ influences from that historic fabric of Wales. In addition to this, Welsh architecture is heavily affected by the wet and changeable climate in which certain materials take precedent to withstand such external environments. There is also the preexisting landscapes that were shaped by industrial powerhouses, such landscapes include docklands, which particularly in Swansea and Cardiff have defined the shape of Welsh cities.

One example of a contemporary building in Wales is the Senedd Building by Richard Rogers which ~~means~~ is meant to represent the Welsh history through use of slate and Welsh timber but due to problematic supply issues, the materials were shipped from abroad. This shows that Wales' ~~can~~ architecture can ~~be~~ suffer from integrity issues when attempting to express historic architecture in a contemporary setting.

Another example of contemporary architecture is the Meridian Tower in Swansea by Habitat Architects which uses modern materials such as concrete and glass with steel framing that acts as a 'beacon' for Swansea and a point of interest for tourists and locals alike. ~~It~~ It can give recognition and identity to the area.